

Virginia's Animal Waste Regulations

Roanoke River Basin Advisory
Committee Meeting

October 3, 2003

VPI & SU - Kentland Farm

Permits for Farms

Three types of permits may be issued for farms, depending on type and size of operation, and environmental factors.

- 1) VPA General Permit
- 2) VPA Individual Permit
- 3) VPDES Permit

VPA General Permits

- VPA General Permit for Confined Animal Feeding Operations (300 AUs)
- VPA General Permit for Poultry Waste Management (200 AUs)

What is defined as 300 AUs?

- 300 beef cattle (feeder or slaughter)
- 200 mature dairy cattle
- 150 horses
- 3000 sheep
- 750 swine (avg. wt over 55lbs.)
- 16,500 turkeys $*(200\text{AU} = 11,000)$
- 30,000 chickens $*(200\text{AU} = 20,000)$
- Any combination of animals over 300 AUs

Federal Regulations

- NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Regulation (40CFR Part 122 and 412)
- Virginia = VPDES, DEQ approved to administer the program
- VA - Traditionally has not issued VPDES permits because of our VPA program and the 25-yr., 24-hr. storm permit exemption

Must We Change?

Virginia has issued permits to livestock farms since the 1970's - first to all operations with liquid waste storage and later based on size of the operation or discharge

- 1) No discharge certificates (AW)
- 2) VPA Individual permits
- 3) VPA General permit
- 4) VPA Poultry Waste Permit
- 5) VPDES permit

Functionally Equivalent ?

- State programs must be at least as stringent as the Federal Program
- “No permit issued by a non-NPDES program will satisfy the NPDES permit requirement.”
- If a state must amend or enact a statute, “such revisions must take place within 2 years” after final rule is in place

Some Items Requiring Change

Virginia

- Permit term
Individual VPA = 5yrs
General = up to 10yrs
Poultry = up to 10yrs
- Enforcement
Authority rests solely
with the
Commonwealth

Federal

- Permit term
NPDES (VPDES)
maximum term is 5yrs
- Enforcement
EPA has authority to
enforce as well as
designate CAFOs

What Operations Need to Obtain a VPDES Permit?

- All “Large CAFOs” defined in the regulation need to obtain a VPDES permit
- There may be operations that do not meet the Large CAFO threshold that will be defined or designated as CAFOs
- If covered by a VPA permit and have a NMP, less likely to be designated a CAFO

How Many Operations Need a VPDES Permit?

- Approximately 150 operations will need to convert from VPA to VPDES permits
- Some threshold numbers of animals that would qualify as “Large CAFOs”

700 Dairy Cattle
1000 Beef Cattle
2500 Swine

125,000 Broilers
82,000 Laying Hens
55,000 Turkeys

What's Next ?

- Federal Rule was published in the Federal Register February 12, 2003
- Virginia Code change was required to comply with new Federal Regulations
- Currently developing VPDES Regulation and amending VPA Regulations
(Timeframe for completion = Fall 2004 / Spring 2005)

What is confinement?

- What animals? - Animals that are contained, maintained, or fed for a total of 45 days or more in a 12 month period
- Where? - Lot or facility where crops, vegetation, forage growth or post harvest residues are not sustained over any portion.

Confined?



Confined?





Confined?

INSPECTION PROCEDURES

TWO PARTS TO AN INSPECTION

- 1. RECORDKEEPING - Review of records to show compliance with the nutrient management plan and other permit requirements**
- 2. VISUAL INSPECTION - Ensures proper maintenance of feed and waste storage, mortality disposal, field buffers maintained, etc.**

Other concerns besides manure!

We know that manure can cause water quality problems and violate clean water standards.

What other types of potential discharges are common to farms that could violate water quality standards?

Parlor / Milk Room Waste Water

Continuous point source discharge is a violation, so some storage may be required. Question: How much is adequate?

Answer: Each farm is different, based on design.



Silage Discharge



HOT STUFF!!!! Silage values vs.(raw sewage)
BOD>5000 (2-300), TKN 1600 (40), TP >500 (8)

DEQ contacts

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